

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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JACK P. MC LAUGHLIN,

Case No. 3:17-CV-00290-RCJ-WGC

**Plaintiff,**

## ORDER

v.

JAMES DZUREND, *et al.*,

## Defendants.

15 This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by  
16 a former state prisoner. On October 14, 2020, United States Magistrate Judge William  
17 G. Cobb issued an order directing Plaintiff to file his updated address with the Court within  
18 thirty (30) days from the date of Order (ECF No. 27). It was further ordered that if Plaintiff  
19 failed to timely comply with the order, the Court may dismiss the action, enter default  
20 judgment, or other sanctions as deemed appropriate by the Court. LR IA 3-1. The thirty-  
21 day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an updated address with the Court.

22 District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “[i]n the  
23 exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . .  
24 dismissal” of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831  
25 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party’s failure  
26 to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules.  
27 See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance  
28 with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal

1 for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856  
2 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring  
3 *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833  
4 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson*  
5 *v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal for lack of prosecution and  
6 failure to comply with local rules).

7 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey  
8 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:  
9 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to  
10 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring  
11 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.  
12 *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130;  
13 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

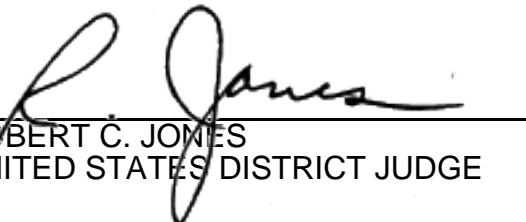
14 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in  
15 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,  
16 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs  
17 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of  
18 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See  
19 *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy  
20 favoring disposition of cases on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor  
21 of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey  
22 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"  
23 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779  
24 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file his updated address with the  
25 Court within thirty days expressly stated: "Failure to comply with this rule may result in the  
26 dismissal of the action, entry of default judgment, or other sanctions as deemed  
27 appropriate by the court." LR IA 3-1. (ECF No. 27). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning  
28 that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file an

1 updated address with the Court within thirty days.

2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this action is DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE  
3 based on Plaintiff's failure to file an updated address with the Court in compliance with  
4 this Court's Order filed October 14, 2020, (ECF No. 27).

5 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment  
6 accordingly and close the case.

7 DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

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10 ROBERT C. JONES  
11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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